

AmeriCorps: Getting things done in Colorado

Governor's Commission on Community Service

Colorado is home to more than 4,500 AmeriCorps members serving their communities. Supported with funding from the **Corporation for National and Community Service** and local sources, AmeriCorps members work to meet compelling needs and get things done!

The Governor's Commission on Community Service manages a portfolio of 18 AmeriCorps*State programs, which enroll more than 600 members. However, AmeriCorps*State is just one of several branches of AmeriCorps programming serving throughout Colorado.

Branches of AmeriCorps

AmeriCorps*State members provide direct service to their community, typically in the areas of education, environment, health, public safety, and disaster preparedness. Programs serve at one or several locations throughout the state. Depending on the program, members may serve full- or part-time.

AmeriCorps*National programs serve in the same capacity as AmeriCorps*State programs, but their scopes include multiple operating sites in several different states.

AmeriCorps*VISTA members serve full-time for 365 days. With the ultimate goal of eliminating poverty, VISTA members perform grassroots and capacity building activities for their host organizations, such as designing systems to raise funds, engage volunteers, and sustain programs.

AmeriCorps*NCCC is a unique national service program that provides members ages 18-24 with a 10-month, full-time, residential service opportunity. Members are trained at one of 5 campuses throughout the country and deploy in teams of 10-14 on a series of different short-term projects throughout a multi-state region.

Other national service programs, including **Senior Corps** and **Learn and Serve America**, effectively engage an additional 13,000 Colorado citizens in meaningful service opportunities throughout the state.

AmeriCorps benefits vary by program, but may include a living allowance, health insurance, child care assistance, training, personal development, student loan forbearance, and an education award upon successful completion of a member's service term.



AmeriCorps*State Programs in Colorado

Operational Program Grantees:

- Boys & Girls Club AmeriCorps Alliance (Statewide)
- Community Building Partnership for Youth in Transition (Denver Metro)
- Colorado Youth Corps Association (Statewide)
- DPS Urban Education Service Corps (Denver Metro)
- Energize La Plata (Southwest)
- Frontier Asset Building CERTI (Eastern Plains & Front Range)
- HIPPYCorps (Statewide)
- Mesa State College AmeriCorps Program (Grand Junction)
- Mile High Youth Corps (Front Range)
- Pueblo Community College AmeriCorps Project (Pueblo)
- Regional Substance Abuse Prevention Partners (Southwest)
- Saguache United Methodist Church AmeriCorps Program (Saguache)
- The School-Based Mentoring Program (Routt County)
- Weld County Youth Conservation Corps (Weld County)

Volunteer Generation Fund Planning Grantees:

- Boomers Leading Change in Health (Denver Metro)
- Colorado Volunteer Center Network (Statewide)
- Metro Volunteers Capacity Building through Training (Denver Metro)
- United Way of Larimer County (Larimer County)

How to get involved



How to Serve as an AmeriCorps Member (*Individuals*)

To find an AmeriCorps program that meets your personal and professional interests, please visit the website **my.AmeriCorps.gov**. Near the bottom, you'll see a red "Search Listings" link, which will allow you to search for programs based on program type, geographic location, interest areas, and personal skills. While browsing, you'll be able to view a program description, member qualifications and duties, and a position summary. You also will be able to contact the program directly to ask specific questions. Most programs utilize the online application process, which is accessed directly through the "Apply Now" link. Individual programs may require additional materials, such as a resume or a supplemental application. Contact the program directly for answers to those questions.

How to Apply for an AmeriCorps*State Program (*Organizations*)

AmeriCorps*State programs can be hosted by nonprofit, local government, faith-based, tribal, and other community organizations. (For-profit entities are excluded.) Programs should work to meet a compelling need in their local communities. For example, AmeriCorps members may be engaged in tutoring and mentoring youth, increasing energy efficiency, performing environmental stewardship, working with health and human service agencies, increasing economic opportunity, providing asset building education, and much more! AmeriCorps members are prohibited from engaging in lobbying activities, and they may not be used to displace or replace employees or regular volunteers.

Programs are funded on a 3-year grant cycle. The Governor's Commission on Community Service will begin holding information sessions throughout the state during the summer of 2011 for the upcoming 2012-15 grant cycle. Interested agencies are encouraged to talk with the Governor's Commission on Community Service at any time to discuss your ideas to determine if AmeriCorps*State programming is a good fit. Each host organization is required to match a certain percentage of the program budget with local cash and in-kind support. New programs begin at 24% required match for the first 3 years, which then increases each consecutive year the program grant is awarded until reaching 50% at Year 10. Please contact Mark Skinner (Mark.Skinner@state.co.us) to be added to the list to receive upcoming information.

How to Support AmeriCorps in Colorado

In addition to the administration of the AmeriCorps*State program portfolio, the Governor's Commission on Community Service engages in promoting volunteerism and strengthening communities throughout Colorado. If you or your organization is interested in supporting AmeriCorps and service in Colorado, please contact us to discuss the possibilities of sponsoring national and local days of service events, joint marketing and promotions, providing training and resources, and other partnership opportunities!



"LIFE'S MOST PERSISTENT AND URGENT QUESTION IS, 'WHAT ARE YOU DOING FOR OTHERS?'" MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Governor's Commission on Community Service
Office of Lt. Governor Joseph A. Garcia

225 E 16th Ave
Suite B-52
Denver, CO 80203
P: 303-866-6426
E: gccs@colorado.gov
www.colorado.gov/gccs

